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PATENTIN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE AS
DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE

Applicants:	Bhat, et al.		
Int. Appln. No:	PCT/US03/18841		
Int. Filing Date:	14 June 2003		
US Appln. No.:	To Be Assigned	Case No.:	21057YP
Filed:	Concurrently Herewith		
For:	CARBOCYCLIC NUCLEOSIDE DERIVATIVES AS INHIBITORS OF RNA-DEPENDENT RNA VIRAL POLYMERASE		

Art Unit:

Examiner:

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

The above-identified case is a PCT application entering the US National Phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 and Article 39(1)(a) of the Patent Cooperation Treaty. Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments prior to prosecution of the subject application. Any additional fees associated with this Amendment may be charged to Merck Deposit Account No. 13-2755.

Please amend this application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this response.
Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this response. **Remarks** begin on page 11 of this response.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE
DATE OF DEPOSIT 12/2/04
EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 4213 41763-45
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS
BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL
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